

CLAIMS

1. A method for carrying out a search of Web sites according to a search criteria, comprising:
 - a) pre-indexing the sites of the Web, including grouping the Web sites according to predefined group-criteria;
 - b) pre-classifying each Web site according to a predefined set of properties;
 - c) pre-visual-formulating each Web site according to its identified properties; and
 - d) upon searching of Web sites that sustain a search criterion, displaying the formed site results divided into said pre-indexed groups wherein each site within a group is displayed according to its visual-formulation.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said grouping is carried out by a clustering process and said group-criteria is of a function among others the number of hyperlink(s) pointing from and to each said Web sites.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein said set of properties comprises one or more parameters relating to said site's importance, the nature of said site's owner, the existence of an e-store within said site, the existence of a "chat room" within said site, the existence of a

forum within said site, the existence of multimedia file(s) and/or their amount and/ or size within said site, the frequent used keywords in the textual data of said site, whether said site in "official", the essence of said site, and/or the amount of information in said site.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the importance of a Web site is a function of the hyperlinks pointing to and from a Web site.
5. A method according to claim 3, wherein the amount of information in a Web site is determined according to the number of characters, and/or the number of words, and/or the number of bytes included within said Web site.
6. A method according to claim 1, wherein said visual-formulation is a distinguishable visual presentation of said properties in a visual presentation.
7. A method according to claim 6, wherein each Web site is presented as a building, the height of the building is proportional to the importance of the Web site represented by it.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein each Web site is presented as a building wherein the width of said building is proportional to the amount of information within said Web site.

9. A method according to claim 7, wherein a commercial Web site is presented as an office-type building.

10. A method according to claim 7, wherein a personal Web site is presented as a house.

11. A method according to claim 7, wherein each Web site is presented as a building wherein a Web site owned by an academy and/or college and/or school is presented as a campus-type building.

12. A method according to claim 7, wherein the presence of an e-store in a Web site is presented as a display window at the building.

13. A method for visually presenting a set of properties of a Web site, comprising:

- a) Associating to each of said properties distinguishable graphical representation within a Web site;
- b) Displaying said graphical representation within a Web site representation.

¹⁴
~~13~~. A method according to claim ¹³~~14~~, wherein said graphical representation is presented in 2D or 3D.

¹⁵
~~16~~. A method according to claim ¹³~~14~~, wherein said Web site representation is a building.

¹⁶
~~17~~. A method according to claim ¹³~~14~~, wherein a group of Web sites is presented as a street and each Web site in said group is presented as a building.

¹⁷
~~18~~. A method for finding sub-groups having a common basis in a set of Web sites, comprising:

- a) Clustering said set of Web sites by determining groups having a common basis by their being related by hyperlink(s) pointing to and from each of said Web sites; and
- b) Labeling said determined groups by analyzing their content.

¹⁸
~~19~~. A method according to claim ¹⁷~~18~~, wherein said analyzing is carried out by detecting keywords frequently used in a determined group.

¹⁹
~~20~~. A system for searching of Web sites in the Internet, comprising:

- a Spider application, for scanning the Web sites of the Internet;

- a Database application, for storing the information collected by said Spider application;
- an Indexing application, for grouping, and/or for labeling and/or for classifying the found Web sites; and
- a Seeker application, for searching of Web sites that sustain a search criteria by querying said Database according to said search criteria.

²⁰
21. A system according to claim ¹⁹~~20~~, further comprising a visual formulating application, for visually formulating each of said Web sites according to said classification and displaying the same to a user.

²¹
22. A method for carrying out a search of Web sites, substantially as described and illustrated.

²²
23. A method for visually presenting a set of properties of a Web site, substantially as described and illustrated.

²³
24. A method for finding sub-groups having a common basis in a set of Web sites, substantially as described and illustrated.

²⁴
25. A system for indexing the Web and carrying out a search of Web sites, substantially as described and illustrated.